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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: YAMAMOTO=16A

In re Application of:

Takuo YAMAMOTO et al

Appln. No.: 09/435,770

Filed: November 8, 1999

11100. 10.01.201 0, 1333

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Art Unit:

Examiner:

Washington, D.C.

March 8, 2000

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT [IDS]

MAR 0(8 2000

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 CFR §\$1.97, 1.98, and it is requested that the information set forth in this statement and in the listed documents be considered during the pendency of the above- identified application, and any other application relying on the filing date of the above-identified application or cross-referencing it as a related application.

[X] 1. This IDS should be considered, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97, as it is filed:

(Check one of the boxes A-D)

[ ] A. within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application or within three months of the entry into the national stage of the above-identified international application.



- $\left[ X\right]$  B. before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.
- [ ] C. after (A) and (B) above, but before final rejection or allowance, and Applicants have made the necessary certification (box "i" below) or paid the necessary fee (box "ii" below).

(Check one of the boxes "i" and "ii" below:)

- [ ] i. Counsel certifies that, upon information and belief, each item of information listed herein was either
  - [ ] (a) cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or
  - [ ] (b) not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was not known to any individual designated in \$1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.
- [] ii. A check for the fee set forth in \$1.17(p), presently believed to be \$240, is enclosed (check no. \_\_\_\_).
- [ ] D. after (A), (B) and (C) above, but before payment of the issue fee: Applicant(s) petitions under 37 CFR \$1.97(d) for consideration of this IDS. A check for the fee set forth in \$1.17(i), presently believed to be \$130 is enclosed (check no. \_\_\_\_). Counsel certifies that, upon information and belief, each item of information listed herein was either

record in accordance with \$1.98(d). Per 37 CFR \$1.98(d), copies of these documents need not be filed in this application.

- [X] 3. Documents AC-AF, AI, AK, AM-AO, AV-BA, BC-BI, BK, BL, BN, BP, BQ, BU-BY, CA, CB and CI are not in the English language. In accordance with §1.98(c), Applicant(s) states:
  - [X] An English translation of each document AC-AF, AI, AK, AM-AO, AV-BA, BC-BI, BK, BL, BN, BP, BQ, BU-BY, CA, CB and CI (or of the pertinent portions thereof), or a copy of each corresponding English-language patent or application, or English-language abstract (or claim) is enclosed. See the attached Form 1449, "Translation" column for more information.
  - [ ] A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is found in the attached \_\_\_\_\_ search report (see reply to Comment 68 in the preamble to the final rules; 1135 OG 13 at 20).
  - [] A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) \_\_\_\_ is set forth as follows:

(insert concise explanation of relevance)

- [] A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) \_\_\_\_ can be found on page(s) \_ of the specification.
- [ ] A concise explanation of document(s) \_\_\_\_\_
  can be found on the attached sheet.
- [X] 4. No explanation of relevance is necessary for documents in the English language (see reply to Comments

67 and 68 in the preamble to the final rules; 1135 OG 13 at 20).

[ ] 5. Other information being provided for the examiner's consideration follows:

(insert other information)

6. In accordance with 37 CFR §§1.97(q) (h), the filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that search has been made a information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in \$1.56 (b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the Applicant(s) reserves the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

Respectfully submitted,

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